United Nations E/C.2/2003/2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
4 October 2002

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2003 regular session (5-24 May 2003)
Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Quadrennial reports, 1997-2000, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

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02-62233 (E) 191102

1. International Association of Women in Radio and Television

(Special consultative status granted 1985)

The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT) provides a forum for personal contact and professional development among women broadcasters worldwide. Founded in 1951 the Association is a network of women engaged in the field of radio and television broadcasting and in fields closely allied to the broadcasting industry.

The Association is a non-profit, non-governmental organization of women broadcasters who exchange ideas, professional skills and technical knowledge and utilize resources to support women working or training in electronic media, with particular attention to women broadcasters in developing countries.

The International Association of Women in Radio and Television actively recruits members worldwide and establishes cooperative relationships with other media women's organizations. The Association includes members from Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the United States of America. Recruitment is an ongoing effort.

The Association's financial resources are derived from membership dues on a sliding scale to accommodate all salary levels. In addition, IAWRT receives some funding from the Norwegian development organizations NORAD and Focus and special conference support from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung of Germany and Worldview.

The Association works closely with the Women's International Media Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; Young Asia Television in Colombo, Sri Lanka; and Worldview. Local women's media organizations in various countries in Africa and in Sri Lanka, India and Germany work closely with IAWRT, particularly in organizing regional meetings and biennial conferences.

The Association participates in the annual conferences organized by the Non-Governmental Organization section of the Department of Public Information, held at the United Nations in September and October. Main and alternate IAWRT representatives to the United Nations and various members attended preparatory committee meetings from 28 February to 17 March 2000.

The Association participated in the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". The Association presented three non-governmental organization workshops during the special session at the Methodist Church Center and at the Freedom Forum and organized round-table discussions on the following topics: (a) Status of women and the media; (b) Media, women and equipment; and (c) Women, media and machines. IAWRT also presented hands-on demonstrations and training sessions.

Based on section J (Women and the media) of the Platform for Action, IAWRT presented a statement of views and proposals targeted to the public and to media practitioners. The statement was widely distributed to non-governmental organizations and to official delegates to the special session.

The Association created workshops in cooperation with the International Media Foundation and the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC), a media organization based in Canada that seeks to develop women's participation in community radio.

The IAWRT main representative was one of the primary organizers and managers of the official non-governmental organization press centre throughout the special session. The press centre, a cooperative endeavour by the Communications Consortium Media Center and the Women's International Tribune Center, was effective in providing information and daily press releases, arranging press conferences, individual interview opportunities and computer and telephone service for approximately 1,200 reporters worldwide, representing radio, television, magazines, newspapers and other news organizations.

The Association has accredited representatives to the United Nations in Geneva, Asia and Africa whose responsibility is to attend and report on United Nations meetings and conferences held in those areas.

IAWRT organized regional meetings between biennial conferences in Harare, Zimbabwe (November 1999), Cameroon (November 2000) and Norway (December 2000). The meetings from one to three days in duration, served to reinforce commitment to actions that will implement the Platform for Action, build networks, and inform and motivate women broadcasters. At the meeting held in Norway, which included participants from Denmark, Finland and Sweden, papers were presented on gender roles in the media and on efforts to sensitize journalists and the public to the role of the media.

Members of the International Association of Women in Radio and Television participated in the Asia-Pacific regional meeting in Bangkok in September 2000, where conference discussions encompassed the implementation of the Platform for Action.

In 1999, IAWRT established a web site, which is accessible worldwide to members and other interested parties. The web site (http://www.iawrt.org) contains relevant and current information, United Nations updates, a database, current and past issues of the *IAWRT Newsletter* and a variety of radio and television clips from worldwide news sources.

In the same year, IAWRT established a practical internship programme in cooperation with Young Asia Television in Sri Lanka. It is a project in which IAWRT members are offered three months of sponsored practical training in production at YA*TV studios in Colombo.

2. International Indian Treaty Council

(Special consultative status granted 1977)

The International Indian Treaty Council is an organization of indigenous peoples from North, Central and South America and the Pacific working for the sovereignty and self-determination of indigenous peoples and the recognition and protection of indigenous rights, treaties, traditional cultures and sacred lands. The International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) was founded in 1974 at a gathering in

Standing Rock, South Dakota, attended by more than 5,000 representatives of 98 indigenous nations. In 1977, the Council was recognized as a category II non-governmental organization with special consultative status to the Economic and Social Council, the first indigenous organization to attain this status.

The aims and purpose of the IITC include the following: (a) to recognize and promote the political, economic and cultural sovereignty and self-determination of indigenous nations around the world; (b) to base its work and activism on the traditional values of the indigenous world, and to recognize and respect the guidance and leadership of the traditional elders and spiritual leaders; (c) to build and strengthen unity and alliances among indigenous peoples of the world; (d) to affirm rights of indigenous peoples as expressed in international treaties, laws and principles of human rights; (e) to educate non-Indian people and organizations about Indian cultures and struggles for self-determination, racial and environmental justice; (f) to present an indigenous world view based on peace, respect and balance as an alternative to militarism, industrialism, and exploitation and destruction of the natural world.

Since the last quadrennial report in 1996 IITC has opened three new offices in the following locations:

- Indigenous Trading Company, P.O. Box 7276, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407-0276
- Central America Regional Office, 32 Av. 1-56 Zona 7, Guatemala, Colonia UTATLAN
- New York Office, P.O. Box 3727, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163

The IITC continues to provide a unique link, voice and organizing base for traditional and grass-roots peoples to address issues of critical concern to their communities. IITC's member affiliates include over 100 organizations, tribes and communities. Affiliated indigenous communities have direct input into the planning, implementation and evaluation of IITC programmes, priorities, policies and positions by participating in the Council's conferences and serving on its Board of Directors.

The Council prioritizes coalition and strategic alliance building, broad-based collaboration and networking with a wide variety of indigenous and non-indigenous non-governmental organizations to address issues of common concern, share information and coordinate organizational strategies. Some of IITC's active affiliations and alliances include: Indigenous Environmental Network, World Council of Churches, National Congress of American Indians, American Indian Law Alliance, Amnesty International, and the Saami Council.

The IITC has participated annually from 1997 to 2000 in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, including the Commission on Human Rights; the Working Group on Indigenous Populations; the Subcommission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; and the open-ended intersessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the elaboration of a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people.

Additionally, the Council participated in the fourth and fifth Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Bratislava, 1998, and Kenya, 2000); in sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Ad Hoc

Intergovernmental Panel on Forestry and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change from 1997 to 2000, and in preparatory committee sessions and expert seminars for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2000.

Numerous oral and written statements were made at each session. In 1997, IITC interventions at United Nations forums addressed indigenous peoples' right to development, children's rights, health and the Human Genome Diversity Project, United Nations treaty study, Chiapas and armed conflict, Guatemala and the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace, toxic waste dumping, protection of the heritage of indigenous peoples and study on indigenous land rights. In 1998, IITC statements focused on protecting ecosystems from imposed development, forced relocation from traditional homelands, prisoner rights, intellectual property rights, a permanent forum on indigenous issues, a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples, the rights of women migrant workers, combating racism and racial discrimination, human rights and scientific and technological development, and the rights of all peoples to self-determination.

In 1999, the Council addressed civil and political rights, religious intolerance, protection of sacred sites, the question of impunity, the health of the world's indigenous peoples and the Workshop on Indigenous Media as well as traditional subsistence practices, forest and land management, and water rights. In 2000, statements concerned international standard-setting discussions on forests, climate change, persistent organic pollutants, strengthening international agreements, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and environmental justice as well as biological ethics.

From 1997 to 2000, IITC provided credentials for indigenous delegates from Alaska, the United States of America, and Bolivia, Canada, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama and Mexico to participate in United Nations forums.

In 1998 the United Nations invited the Council to submit a report on the Human Genome Project, which subsequently appeared as a document of the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/1998/4/Add.1). The IITC has held consultations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights regarding the third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance Plan of Action, the human rights situation in Guatemala and Mexico and the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues within the United Nations system. The Council has also met with the World Intellectual Property Organization about traditional knowledge systems; with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) concerning the re-establishment of an indigenous task force within that organization; and with the World Health Organization on developing a health policy for the world's indigenous peoples.

In 1997, the Executive Director of the International Indian Treaty Council was one of two indigenous representatives invited to address the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, representing the major group indigenous peoples. IITC provided consultation to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization International Bioethics Committee and participated in the UNESCO expert seminar on the implementation of the right to self-determination as a contribution to conflict prevention in Barcelona. IITC has continued to participate

as a member organization in the World Conservation Union addressing environmental and conservation issues.

The Council filed a formal complaint that resulted in a visit in 1998 by the Special Rapporteur on all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief to the United States, during which IITC coordinated, at the request of the Special Rapporteur, presentations by over 40 indigenous communities, tribes, organizations and spiritual leaders, focusing on the spiritual relationship between indigenous peoples and their traditional lands and sacred sites.

Other complaints and urgent actions were submitted, monitored and/or updated by IITC to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (Mexico); the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (Guatemala); the Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples and their relationship to land (United States); the Special Rapporteur on all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief (United States); and the Special Rapporteur on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations (Mexico, United States); as well as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labour Organization (Oaxaca, Mexico) and the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (El Salvador, Mexico and the United States).

The IITC received financial support from the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations to attend the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in 1998 and nominated a participant in the United Nations fellowship programme for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People in 1997. The financial resources of the IITC have improved slowly but steadily over the past four years, with foundation grants and individual donations continuing to provide the bulk of the Council's funding.

3. International Press Institute (IPI)

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introductory statement

The International Press Institute (IPI) is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists dedicated to protecting and furthering freedom of the press and improving the standards and practices of journalism. Founded in October 1950 by 34 editors from 15 countries, today IPI has grown into a truly global organization with over 2,000 members in 110 countries. Even though the size of the organization has changed, its philosophy remains the same: that freedom of expression is the right that protects all other rights and that this freedom needs to be promoted and defended.

The Institute's membership is made up of editors and media executives working for some of the world's most respected media outlets. IPI has also established a new membership category, "IPI leading journalists", which is open to heads of media departments, bureau chiefs, correspondents and others. Moreover, in several countries, IPI members have established national committees that support

the Institute in its work to improve the situation for the media. IPI is a member of the World Press Freedom Committee.

International Press Institute consultative activities with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

January 1997: Paris. An IPI representative attended the third consultative committee meeting in Paris to prepare the United Nations UNESCO European Seminar on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Media, which was held in September 1997 in Sofia. IPI also provided UNESCO with background information on the situation of the European media.

18-20 May 1997: New York. The IPI Director attended the meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, of which IPI is a member. The meeting was organized to coincide with the May session of the Committee on Information, during which influential non-aligned countries were once again expected to promote the new world information and communication order (NWICO). The ministers of information of nearly 30 non-aligned countries, at a conference held in Abuja, Nigeria from 3 to 6 September 1996, had called for the revival of the concept of this new world order. In their declaration, the ministers claimed that developed nations were employing their media to disseminate false and distorted information on events taking place in developing countries — the same argument used in the original drive for NWICO in the 1970s.

At a meeting with Samir Sanbar, Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, the Coordinating Committee was assured that the issue of NWICO would not come up at their 1997 meetings. However, another plan, a United Nations world media conference, is still a possibility and could become more concrete at any given time. The Committee promised to watch closely any developments.

27 May 1998: Moscow. IPI members meeting in Moscow for the IPI annual World Congress and forty-seventh General Assembly issued a resolution urging authorities around the world to reaffirm article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration. At the same event, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, spoke about fifty years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

December 1998: Vienna. The Institute, in cooperation with Pressclub Concordia and the Austrian newspaper publishers association, marked the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by inviting Henrikas Yushkiavitshus, Assistant Director-General for Communication, Information and Informatics of UNESCO to present a lecture on new threats to freedom of opinion and expression. The lecture was attended by Austrian editors, foreign correspondents, diplomats and parliamentarians from the various political parties of Austria. The event was presided over by Heinz Fischer, President of the Austrian Parliament, who spoke about Austria's commitment to human rights.

21 February 1999: Washington, D.C. The Institute's Director attended a meeting of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations in Washington, D.C. The meeting adopted the following resolution on the successor to Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO:

We, the undersigned representatives of the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, urge that the member States of UNESCO, in their search for a successor to Director-General Federico Mayor, when his term ends in fall 1999, require of any candidate for selection as Director-General that he or she makes a positive, unambiguous and public commitment to reaffirm and emphasise freedom of expression, including freedom of the press. Such a commitment to press freedom is founded in the UNESCO Constitution, and in the five regional declarations (Windhoek, Almaty, Santiago de Chile, Sana'a and Sofia) on promoting independent and pluralistic media that were endorsed by UNESCO's General Conferences.

1 March 1999: Paris. The IPI Director attended an NGO consultation meeting on the societal impact of the new information and communication technologies at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. UNESCO convened the informal meeting to gather the views and expectations of some of its main partners, especially those working in close cooperation with the communication, information and informatics sector.

3 May 2000: Boston, Massachusetts. Louise Fréchette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, addressed over 400 participants in the IPI annual World Congress at the closing ceremony on World Press Freedom Day (3 May).

4-5 May 2000: Geneva, Switzerland. An IPI representative attended a round table on media in conflict and post-conflict areas organized in Geneva by the UNESCO Programme for Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations met to discuss how to combat war propaganda and hate speech without detriment to freedom of the press and the editorial independence of local media. A charter of recommendations for future action was drafted by the participants at the end of the two-day meeting.

13-15 November: Paris. The IPI Director took part in INFOethics 2000 on the Right to Universal Access to Information in the Twenty-first Century at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The main themes of the conference were the role of public authorities in access to information; the fair use concept in the information society; and the protection of human dignity in the digital age. The declared aim of the meeting was to examine the possibility of building up an international consensus on ethical and legal principles applicable in cyberspace and to further consolidate the new information society programme of UNESCO.

4. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN)

(General consultative status granted 1973)

Introduction

The International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN) is an international youth and student organization working with young people and students for the aims and ideals of the United Nations — for peace, justice, development, human rights and international solidarity — in order to promote an informed public and wider knowledge about the United Nations, its actual meaning and its potentialities. ISMUN has member associations on all

continents working in a variety of ways for the implementation of United Nations plans and programmes and for a more just and equitable world. During the period 1997 to 2000, ISMUN continued its active and comprehensive involvement with a broad spectrum of issues on the United Nations agenda, with participation of its members from all regions, in particular from developing countries.

Participation in United Nations meetings and conferences

During the period under review the Movement has regularly participated in the annual sessions of the Economic and Social Council. At the 1997 session, ISMUN made an oral statement on the elimination of racism and another on new and innovative ideas for generating funds for development. At the 1998 session ISMUN followed up with an oral statement on funding development.

ISMUN has regularly attended the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. At the 1997 session of the Commission on Human Rights, ISMUN, on behalf of a group of non-governmental organizations, made an oral statement on racism and for the convening of a world conference against racism. ISMUN has also associated itself with joint statements made by other non-governmental organizations to the Commission.

ISMUN has actively participated in all the sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Several oral statements have been delivered to the Commission, including some on behalf of the youth caucus at the Commission.

ISMUN concentrated much of its activities during the first part of the 1990s on preparations for and participation in the major United Nations world conferences. Participation in the follow-up process has therefore been important for ISMUN, which has attended the different five-year review meetings of the world conferences, including the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 in June 1997; the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, 30 June to 2 July 1999; the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in September 1999; the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly on the World Summit for Social Development and Beyond: Achieving Social Development for All in a Globalized World in June 2000; and the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" in June 2000.

Various meetings and activities were organized by ISMUN in connection with the review meetings. At the June 1997 special session on sustainable development in New York, ISMUN organized a youth forum that brought together the youth participants at the special session and resulted in the Earth Summit II youth declaration on sustainable development and global justice, which was presented to the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General.

ISMUN attended the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth organized by Portugal in cooperation with the United Nations in August 1998 and delivered a statement at the plenary session of the Conference.

ISMUN has attended numerous other United Nations meetings on different topics, including those related to disarmament.

In its participation in the different United Nations meetings and conferences, ISMUN has paid special attention to ensuring representation of its leadership and members from developing countries, in particular those from Africa.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and the Secretariat

The Movement has maintained cooperative relations with a range of secretariat departments and entities in the United Nations including, those related to development, disarmament, human rights, human settlements, youth, children, AIDS and South-South cooperation.

Promoting youth activities for South-South cooperation is an important field of activity for ISMUN, considering that the majority of ISMUN membership is based in the South. ISMUN maintains close relations with a range of prominent institutions and mechanisms of the South that promote South-South cooperation. In December 1999 ISMUN organized an international youth leadership training programme and conference in Lagos, Nigeria on the young generation and issues related to South-South cooperation. The conference was financially supported by the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund of the Group of 77 and the United Nations Development Programme Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, which cooperated in the preparation of the meeting. The leadership training programme for South-South cooperation has been followed up in cooperation with regional youth structures in the South and at United Nations meetings and conferences.

In the African region programmes and activities on youth health have been developed through the Movement's African regional office as follow-up to the youth conference against AIDS that ISMUN organized in Accra in September 1996 with support from a number of institutions, including the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

ISMUN has taken an active interest in the youth policy programmes of the United Nations and has exerted efforts for the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on youth policies. ISMUN participated in the World Youth Forum of the United Nations system organized by the Secretariat in Portugal in August 1998.

Cooperation with non-governmental organizations in support of United Nations objectives

The Movement considers cooperation and joint activities among NGOs in consultative status to be of great importance for advancing common objectives and promoting implementation of United Nations programmes.

ISMUN members were repeatedly elected to different capacities in the NGO Steering Committee for the Commission on Sustainable Development from 1997 to 2000.

During the period under review ISMUN has served as Vice Chair of the Special NGO Committee on Development (Geneva) and Bureau member of the Special NGO Committee on Disarmament (Geneva). It has also held positions in the Geneva Informal Meeting of International Youth non-governmental organizations, NGO Liaison Forum on Environment and Development and the NGO Subcommittee on the South.

ISMUN served as co-convenor of the Interim Steering Committee of the NGO Planning Committee for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance from 1999 until the first preparatory committee meeting of the Conference.

ISMUN made a major effort during 1999-2000 to secure the success of the Millennium Forum which was held at United Nations Headquarters in May 2000. ISMUN attended all the Planning Consultative Council and Steering Committee meetings and was elected Vice Chair of the Steering Committee and Vice Chair of the Planning Consultative Council of the Millennium Forum.

5. Islamic Relief

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introduction

The present report outlines the activities of Islamic Relief in particular its contribution to the work of the United Nations.

Islamic Relief is an international relief and development charity aimed at alleviating the suffering of the world's poorest nations. It is an independent, non-political organization established in 1984. Since then Islamic Relief has grown rapidly and currently spans four continents, initiating emergency and long-term development projects in some of the poorest communities around the world. With its headquarters in Birmingham, United Kingdom, Islamic Relief has nine fund-raising offices registered in Belgium, France, Germany, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States and eleven field offices in Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Egypt, Kosova, Mali, Pakistan, Palestine, the Russian Federation, Kabardin-Balkar Republic) and the Sudan. Islamic Relief specializes in the following sectors: education and vocational training; health and nutrition; water and sanitation; income generation; orphans' support; disaster preparedness; and emergency relief.

The organization has no relationship with any Government bearing on its management or the orientation of its activities. However, Islamic Relief may accept donations or services from governmental agencies wishing to support certain projects. For example, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom has financially supported Islamic Relief development and emergency relief projects in Bangladesh, Mali and Pakistan.

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

Since 1997 Islamic Relief has participated in numerous conferences and meetings. From May to July 1999 the Islamic Relief field office in Albania

participated in various coordination meetings held by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Shkodra, northern Albania to discuss the conditions in the refugee camps and the security of refugees and expatriate staff. In February 2000 Islamic Relief's Emergency Relief Coordinator was present in various meetings in Moscow with UNHCR, the World Food Programme (WFP), UNICEF, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Those meetings concerned the Chechen crisis that had erupted four months before. The same representative participated in meetings during May 2000 in Nazran with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to explore the humanitarian situation for displaced Chechens in the Republic of Ingushetia. In 2000, Islamic Relief participated in other conferences, meetings and workshops in Timbuktu and Bamako, Mali, and in Senegal organized by UNHCR, WFP and UNESCO, including the education for all conference. During the period 1998 to 2000, numerous meetings were held with UNHCR in Bosnia concerning the support for their return programme. On 8 November 2000 Islamic Relief met with WFP in Quetta, Pakistan, for the allocation of wheat for the provinces of Kandahar and Helmand. The following month, on 1 December 2000, WFP formally requested participation in a city-wide food distribution after Islamic Relief submitted a survey/assessment report.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

Kosova

- Mine awareness contract with UNICEF: child to child training, 1999 to 2000
- Mine awareness training contract United Nations Mine-Action Centre: imam and imam wives' training, 1999 to 2000
- Shelter programme contract for returnees UNHCR: 1999 to 2000

Bosnia

- Management Support Services training programme for Bosnian non-governmental organizations, funded by UNHCR in 1999
- Cooperation with UNHCR coordinated return programme to Eastern Bosnia. Islamic Relief built over 200 homes and three schools

Chechnya

- From November 2000 to date, Islamic Relief has been working as an implementing partner for WFP in the Republic of Ingushetia.

Pakistan

- Islamic Relief has been working as a leading implementing partner of UNHCR in refugee camps since 2000. The organization has also been managing two refugee camps on behalf of UNHCR and is also acting in charge of the Chaman staging camp.

Mali

In 1997 Islamic Relief officers agreed on a plan with UNHCR officers to assist in the reintegration of repatriates and displaced people in Gourma-Rharous. UNHCR agreed to contribute 193,763 United States dollars (US$) towards the cost of the project. Islamic Relief officers also participated with WFP representatives to improve cooperation on the ground.

Since 2000 Islamic Relief has worked in collaboration with the following agencies and offices:

- UNESCO, as part of the NGO consortium for the Education for All agenda
- WFP (Mali), in the evaluation mission of the WFP female strategy programme
- WFP (Mali), in the evaluation mission for the school canteens project

Sudan

- UNICEF has supported numerous projects, such as a mother and child health-care and feeding centre in El Obeid, from 1997 to date by providing vaccines, rehydration salts and Unimix for children who suffer from malnutrition
- The vocational training programme and the adult literacy programme in El Obeid were also supported by the World Food Programme through its food-for-work scheme from 1997 onward

Other relevant activities with the United Nations

Islamic Relief worked in the following co-financed projects between 1997 and 1999:

- With UNHCR, a community reintegration project for repatriation in northern Mali
- With WFP, food-for-work activities for the repatriate and resident communities in the circle of Gourma-Rharous, in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- With WFP, food-for-training activities for the repatriate and resident population in the circle of Gourma-Rharous, in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- With WFP, the school canteens support project for improvement to girl education in the circle of Gourma-Rharous in the region of Timbuktu, Mali
- In 1997 Islamic Relief became a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO)
- Islamic Relief sought advice from the World Health Organization in 1997 about the tuberculosis crisis in Chechnya, in order to market a proposal for the treatment of victims in the area
- In the same year, at the request of the Geneva office of UNHCR, Islamic Relief submitted information on its operational capacity in the form of a questionnaire

Membership of Islamic Relief, by region

Africa		
1.	Mali	1 institution
2.	Sudan	1 institution
Asia		
3.	Azerbaijan	1 institution
4.	Bangladesh	1 institution
5.	Kazakhstan	1 institution
6.	Mauritius	1 institution
7.	Pakistan	1 institution
8.	Palestine	1 institution
9.	Russian Federation (Kabardin-Balkar Republic)	1 institution
Europe		
10.	Albania	1 institution
11.	Belgium	1 institution
12.	Bosnia	1 institution
13.	France	1 institution
14.	Germany	1 institution
15.	Kosova	1 institution
16.	Netherlands	1 institution
17.	Sweden	1 institution
18.	Switzerland	1 institution
19.	United Kingdom	1 institution
North America		
20.	United States of America	1 institution

6. National Action Committee on the Status of Women (Canada)

(Special consultative status granted 1997)

Introduction

The National Action Committee is Canada's largest feminist lobby organization advocating for the advancement of women's equal rights nationally and internationally. The Committee works from an anti-racist, anti-discriminatory

feminist principle and firmly believes that women's equality rights must include their social, cultural, political, civil and economic rights. NAC's membership is comprised of a coalition of over 700 diverse member groups from across Canada and includes women's centres and shelters, immigrant and refugee women, trade unions, Aboriginal and Metis women, organizations of women of colour, academic women's groups, student groups, lesbian groups and businesswomen's associations.

NAC carries out its work through lobbying of Government, research and policy development, popular education, international solidarity work and conferences within national and international settings. The present report provides information on the United Nations-related activities that NAC has undertaken for the period 1997 to 2000 since obtaining its consultative status. The activities primarily consisted of participation in conferences of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations meetings. Domestic activities included promoting community awareness of resolutions passed at the United Nations and lobbying the Government to implement the resolutions passed.

Activities

1. 1997

January 1997. On behalf of women in Canada, representatives of the organization presented and submitted a document entitled "Canada: alternative report to CEDAW" at the sixteenth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in New York.

2. 1998

March 1998. An executive committee member of the NAC attended the forty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York and participated in the lobbying of Government.

3. 1999

March 1999. Representatives of the organization including the President, an executive member-at-large and the Executive Coordinator participated in the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York.

NAC also participated in the preparation of a non-governmental organization global report undertaken by the Women's Environment and Development Organization on the progress of the world's Governments after the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing) and a non-governmental organization global report on the progress of the world's Governments after the International Conference on Population and Development. NAC's quarterly newsletter *Action Now!* featured a report on the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Action (domestic and international)

March 1999. NAC prepared a report for its member groups on the progress on the Commission's session and the preparatory meeting for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". NAC actively participated with other non-governmental organizations to lobby Governments and develop language,

particularly on the negotiations on the Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, institutional mechanisms and health, and provided an oral and written submission on the Optional Protocol to the Member States on behalf of Canadian women.

NAC actively worked with various international non-governmental organization coalitions and caucuses including Black women and the Women of Colour North/South Caucus, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean caucus and other regional caucuses to define a global agenda for the next decade and a strategic direction to lobby Governments in relation to the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action. In this regard, NAC undertook critical interventions to broaden the dialogue and the inclusion of marginalized women. For example, lobbying for the substantive inclusion of indigenous women was one intervention made by the NAC President at the meeting of non-governmental organizations convened by the committees of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council during the preparatory meeting of the special session. This intervention was instrumental in mobilizing broad non-governmental organization support for indigenous women's representation and participation in the discussions and negotiations.

As part of the ongoing work at the domestic level to ensure the adoption of a strong Optional Protocol, NAC lobbied the Government of Canada and mounted a public education campaign using different media, including print media and a feminist chat line.

4. 2000

January 2000. The President participated in the regional preparatory meetings of the Economic Commission of Europe for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, held in Geneva, Switzerland. The Committee lobbied Governments to continue the commitments to the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action for their enhancement and improvement. Along with other non-governmental organizations, NAC was instrumental in achieving the inclusion of racism, in particular as it impacts violence against women, in the language of the final document issued at those meetings.

March 2000. Representatives of the organization, including the President, an executive member-at-large and the Executive Coordinator, participated in the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 28 February to 17 March, and the Preparatory Committee for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

Action

As part of the Canadian coalition of non-governmental organizations and the international coalition of non-governmental organizations, the Committee actively participated in the development of a comprehensive and centralized non-governmental organizations lobbying document (linkages document) in support of the Platform for Action.

The Women of Colour North/South Caucus, of which NAC is a founding member, organized a workshop during the 23rd special session of the General Assembly to highlight the intersectionality of race and gender and the linkage

between the Commission on the Status of Women process and the approaching World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to be held in South Africa in August and September 2001. In many ways the discussion was groundbreaking in the context of the Commission process. Although Black women and women of colour have been making the connections between race and gender at both domestic and international levels, integration of this analysis within the formal agenda of the Commission has posed a challenge.

NAC is one of the founding member organizations of the Women's International Coalition for Economic Justice (WICEJ) formed in March 2000. WICEJ is a coalition of women's organizations and individuals from the global South and North who have come together to develop collective analyses on the integration of gender and economic justice. The coalition has worked to develop language impact and advance non-governmental organization analyses; to lobby the Government at the negotiation table; to develop position papers to be utilized as lobbying tools; and to organize forums on gender and economic justice.

NAC's President participated as a panellist at a forum on integrating sexuality with human rights. The lesbian caucus organized the panel discussion, which was attended by over 150 delegates to the Preparatory Committee meetings in New York.

1-5 May 2000. The Executive Coordinator participated in the first Preparatory Committee meeting for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Geneva, Switzerland. It was the first meeting in the international preparatory processes leading up to the Conference. At that meeting NAC played an important role in facilitating the opportunity for a Canadian coalition of people of African descent to identify anti-Black racism as a barrier for African-Canadians to their full and equal participation in Canadian society. The Committee also actively participated in the development of key caucuses and coalitions.

2-9 June 2000. Representatives of the organization consisting of the President, an executive member-at-large, and the Executive Coordinator participated in the Preparatory Committee for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

NAC actively participated in the special session, which carried out a comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by Canada at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, and considered further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Platform.

NAC's Executive Coordinator is a member of the steering committee of this coalition and on behalf of the coalition has moderated a public education forum on the subject and has made a panel presentation on NAC's research project, "From local to global", and its connection to the international context.

December 2000. The Executive Coordinator attended the regional preparatory meeting for the Americas for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Santiago, Chile.

Action (domestic and international)

May 2000. The President of NAC participated in an electronic roundtable discussion convened by Status of Women Canada (the federal government agency responsible for women's issues) to consult with Canadian women's non-governmental organizations on the outcome document, which sets out further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action within the Canadian context.

June 2000. At the NAC annual general meeting, information sessions on the twenty-third special session were organized for members. A report on the meeting in March 2000 was disseminated to over 200 member group delegates from across Canada. Position papers developed by the international coalitions in which the organization is a member, WICEJ and the Women of Colour North/South Caucus, were also circulated to the member groups as analytical tools to be utilized in their communities to promote awareness and mobilize broad participation of women in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

NAC's quarterly newsletter, *Action Now!*, featured articles on the preparatory meetings for the twenty-third special session, held in March, and on the special session, held in June.

17 October 2000. NAC participated in a meeting with heads of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Subsequently, NAC was a part of a group of women who actively participated in a meeting with the Secretary-General on the floor of the General Assembly. The meeting was chaired on his behalf by Deputy Secretary-General Louise Frechette and the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women, Assistant Secretary-General Angela King.

7. National Council of Women of Canada

(Special consultative status granted 1997)

The National Council of Women of Canada (NCWC), a non-partisan, non-political, non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 1893, has the following mission statement: "To empower all women to work together towards improving the quality of life for women, families and society through a forum of member organizations and individuals". Membership has remained relatively static with some loss of nationally organized societies, which is partly offset by newly formed study groups. Financial resources remain stressed; the Government of Canada stopped all core funding, substituting instead "project funding". This is a cumbersome and time-consuming process. NCWC is taking steps to strengthen its financial base.

NCWC affiliated with the International Council of Women (ICW) in 1905, and is an active member with the Regional Council of the Americas, a geographical subset of the ICW. The present report starts as of August 1997 and covers the work of the NCWC representative to the United Nations, related work done by directors and/or convenors and relevant policy resolutions developed for and adopted or updated at the annual general meetings. The NCWC web site (www.ncwc.ca) has links to the United Nations and its agencies and documentation; in addition, the web

site contains NCWC policies, letters, briefs and reports, and the new *NCWC Newsletter*.

1997-1998. The Board of Directors of the National Council of Women of Canada appointed an official representative to the United Nations and decided, owing to limited financial resources, to limit the participation in person for the present time to the annual sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

The NCWC Representative to the United Nations participated in the following events in Canada:

(a) The annual general meeting of the Canadian Committee for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM);

(b) The joint conference of the United Nations Association in Canada and the United Nations Development Programme on good governance and democratization: the role of international organizations;

(c) Consultations held by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade preparatory to the annual session of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights;

(d) The forty-second session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women dealing with violence against women, the girl child, human rights of women and women in armed conflict, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);

(e) A workshop on the proposed International Criminal Court.

Additional NCWC activities during this period included the following:

(a) Memo to the Minister intervening for a female refugee;

(b) Participation in Campaign 2000, calling for a children's agenda to fight child poverty;

(c) Brief and letters to the Government on the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI);

(d) Participation in the Women's Leaders Network pre-Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

NCWC also adopted policy resolutions on violence against women (98.1); ensuring biodiversity/biosecurity in Canada (98.3); globalization: negotiating multilateral trade agreements (98.6); to establish an effective and just international criminal court (98.10); and economic gender analysis and gender analysis indicators (EM:98.1).

1998-1999. NCWC participated in the following conferences and consultations:

(a) Forwarding of resolution (98.10) in support of the International Criminal Court to the Government of Canada;

(b) Participation in work of the International Women's Caucus for Gender Justice through letters and e-mail during the United Nations Diplomatic Conference

of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held in Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998;

(c) Cross-Canada round tables for nuclear disarmament with a motion at the 1999 annual general meeting to reiterate NCWC policy in support of nuclear disarmament;

(d) CEDAW strategies conference (York University): 15 women's organizations were present;

(e) International Human Rights Conference (Edmonton, 26-28 November) marking the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(f) Forum with Government preparatory to the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, sending two participants (Hull, 22-24 March);

(g) Coordination Session arranged by the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW) preparatory to the forty-third session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women;

(h) Fortieth annual general meeting of the Canadian Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

(i) Intervention with federal and provincial Governments about the incarceration of young offenders in cells in direct contact with adult offenders in contravention of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Canada is a signatory).

NCWC participated in the forty-third session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women including the non-governmental organization caucuses for the Optional Protocol to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; women's health, institutional mechanisms and national machineries; and the ad hoc drafting groups for non-governmental organization accreditation and the Global Alternative Report. The NCWC passed a motion to participate in the Global Alternative Report.

NCWC adopted the following policy resolutions and updates, forwarding six to the International Council of Women for possible consideration at the triennium in 2000: Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child (99.1); An International Convention for Humanitarian Aid (99.2) to ICW; Discrimination against the Poor (99.3) to ICW; Economic Sovereignty and Fair Labour Practices (99.5.b) to ICW; Taking Action on Global Climate Change (99PU.2); Women and HIV/AIDS (99PU.3); Securing the Future for Older Women (from ICW); Cancellation of Unsustainable Debt of Less Developed Countries (99EM.2) to ICW; The Tobin Tax (99EM.3) to ICW; Working Towards Peace (99EM.6); Supporting Ratification of the Rome Statute Establishing the International Criminal Court (99EM.7) to ICW; Alternative Agreements on Investments (99.7).

A special project on violence was the forum on understanding the connections: girls and young women as victims and perpetrators of violence.

1999-2000. NCWC continued its participation in the following:

(a) The meetings of the Canadian Women's March Committee, including work on programme, demands and lobbying committees;

(b) Attendance by the President, President-elect and representative at the conference held by the Non-Governmental Organization Section of the Department of Public Information (DPI/NGO);

(c) Presentation of a brief to the parliamentary committee for electoral reform stressing the need to enable women to become candidates standing for election;

(d) Participation in the Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA) conference in preparation for the forty-fourth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women;

(e) Attendance at the forty-fourth session of the Commission, working with the NGO environment caucus, the Economic Commission for Europe caucus, the JUSCANZ (Japan, United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) NGO caucus and the Commonwealth NGO caucus;

(f) Contribution to Status of Women Canada electronic round table and consultation to complete negotiations on the outcome document for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

(g) Participation by an NCWC delegate in the Conference on Women, The Family and Health sponsored by the World Health Organization, UNESCO, Air France and Nestlé in Buenos Aires, Argentina;

(h) Organization of cross-Canada activities at the local level marking the International Year of Older Persons;

(i) Participation in roundtable for the National Children's Agenda (on the topic of child poverty).

The National Council of Women of Canada adopted the following policy resolutions and updates: Protecting Children from Physical Violence: (2000.2); Improving Standards for Garment Workers: (2000.6); Child Poverty and Benefits: (2000.PU.3).

Motions were passed at the June 2000 annual general meeting directing (a) that a policy be developed on trafficking and prostitution of women and children in 2000-2001; and (b) that NCWC write to the Minister of Finance to verify that gender-based analysis was being used as part of the gender-mainstreaming commitment of the Government.

2000. NCWC prepared a project entitled, "The economics of later life: securing our future". NCWC sent a representative to the DPI/NGO conference; copies of the CEDAW text were circulated to all councils; policy resolutions were prepared for study on (a) prostitution and trafficking; (b) Canada's Immigration Policy; and (c) United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

8. Pathways to Peace

(Special consultative status granted 1989)

Pathways to Peace (PTP) is an international, peace-building, multicultural, educational, non-partisan and non-profit organization. The mission of PTP is to build the culture of peace by supporting the spirit, purpose and principles of the United Nations through concerted actions, programmes, special events, consultations and networking.

The Pathways to Peace vision statement is the basis of our work:

> Acting in concert, we do make a difference in the quality of our lives, our institutions, our environment and our planetary future. Through cooperation, we manifest the essential spirit that unites us amid our diverse ways.

PTP continues to remain geographically affiliated with organizations throughout the world partnering in the "We the Peoples" initiative. Sources of funding are still derived from individual contributions, foundation grants, consulting fees and honoraria.

Since 1997, Pathways to Peace has worked in consultation with the Department of Public Information to create the annual youth event for the International Day of Peace at United Nations Headquarters. The programmes change from year to year and fill the conference room with students from the tri-state area. Mrs. Annan opens the event each year. Through the World Peace Flag Ceremony, children send messages of peace to every country. These programmes have included many dignitaries.

In 2000, the International Day of Peace was called Millennium Peace Day. Pathways to Peace was instrumental in linking UNESCO to Millennium Peace Day for the presentation to the President of the General Assembly of the UNESCO "Culture of Peace" manifesto with thousands of signatures.

Through the "We the Peoples" initiative and the Internet, the International Day of Peace is widely promoted by PTP and its 250 partner organizations from all the regions of the world. The International Day of Peace is celebrated in schools, places of worship and communities in over 40 countries.

As the international secretariat for the "We the Peoples" initiative and a United Nations peace messenger since 1989, Pathways to Peace produces and presents the initiative's annual report to the Secretary-General. Those reports contain the highlights of peace-building activities carried out by the participating organizations. PTP also serves as a resource for partners in the initiative.

Pathways worked closely with UNESCO on the International Day of Peace in 1999 in order to hold an event that launched the year 2000 as the Year for a Culture of Peace at United Nations Headquarters. The Decade was launched on the Day in 2000. PTP continues to be an active partner with UNESCO in the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010).

As an active member of the Interfaith Partnership for the Environment, PTP is listed in *Earth and Faith: A Book of Reflection*, published as the result of a

collaboration between United Nations Environment Programme and the Partnership. PTP is also an accredited non-governmental organization with UNICEF.

PTP is involved in United Nations conferences and preparatory committees. Representatives attended the annual September DPI/NGO conferences in 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. In 2000, Pathways to Peace organized and moderated a midday non-governmental organization workshop, Networking for the Globalization of Peace.

Pathways was involved in the five-year review process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1997) and the FWCW (2000) in New York; the World Youth Forum in Portugal (1998); The Hague Appeal for Peace in the Netherlands (1999) and the Millennium People's Assembly in New York (2000).

Pathways to Peace has held leadership positions within the non-governmental organization community, serving on the DPI/NGO Executive Committee from 1996 to 1998 and on the Values Caucus Council since 1996, when it was formed. The Values Caucus Council organizes monthly meetings for the NGO community, regular "coffees" featuring a permanent representative invited to share the values of his or her nation, and special events such as the December 2000 luncheon with ambassadors to discuss the values listed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2) and the Secretary-General's millennium report.

Pathways to Peace participates in various NGO committees: the Committee of Religious NGOs, the Committee for Teaching about the United Nations, the committee on the decade for indigenous peoples, the Non-Governmental Organization Working Group on Girls, the committee for freedom of religion and belief, and the NGO committees on youth and on the status of women.

Pathways to Peace is committed to promoting a culture of peace through interfaith dialogue. Pathways served on the steering committee for the United Religions Initiative (URI), an outgrowth of the fiftieth United Nations anniversary celebration in San Francisco creating a worldwide network of interfaith groups to work together on projects and regional priorities (1995-2000). PTP assisted URI in applying for DPI/NGO status, which was granted in 2000.

At the Parliament of the World's Religions in Cape Town, South Africa, in 1999, PTP presented a workshop on the culture of peace and helped organize a major Parliament event at Robben Island with the World Peace Prayer Society.

PTP is a co-sponsor of and has been active in the planning of the annual interfaith service of commitment to the work of the United Nations organized by the Interfaith Center of New York and the Temple of Understanding since 1998. The Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, ambassadors, United Nations staff, non-governmental organizations and the public attend this service.

Pathways to Peace co-chaired the Interfaith Youth Forum in Support of the Millennium World Peace Summit for Religious and Spiritual Leaders at the United Nations in 2000. A total of 120 youth from twelve different religious traditions, six countries and eight states worked together for two days to experience different traditions and prepare a document for the religious leaders. The youth attended the opening of the Millennium Assembly.

Pathways to Peace works closely with the World Peace Prayer Society on their annual peace festival and special peace pole planting events. In January 1999, Pathways and the Society worked with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and their youth representatives in Nairobi to organize over 1,000 local people in a ceremony to plant a peace pole to commemorate the victims of the bombing of the United States embassy. Secretary-General Kofi Annan sent a message to Kenya on the occasion of the peace pole dedication.

PTP, working with the Kenya Society for the Blind, directed the project that brought and distributed radios to youth who were blinded or received an eye injury as a result of the bombing.

In 2000, PTP and the World Peace Prayer Society held an interfaith ceremony and planted a peace pole in Bethany, Jordan, as part of the Global Summit on Peace through Tourism organized by the International Institute of Peace through Tourism. The Summit produced the Amman Declaration on Peace through Tourism, which was taken note of by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/212 of 21 December 2001 entitled "Global code of ethics for tourism".

The Season for Non-violence, from 30 January to 4 April, marks the 64 days between the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. PTP has actively served on the New York City task force since it was organized in 1997. The opening and closing events are held annually at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Season's Gandhi-King Award for Non-violence has been presented to Secretary-General Kofi Annan (1999), former President Nelson Mandela (2000) and Global Kids (2001). Mahatma Gandhi's grandson, Arun Gandhi, is a founder of this international programme and the family of Martin Luther King, Jr. is very involved. Pathways created the Gandhi-King web site to promote the Season in 1997. In a letter to Pathways to Peace, Coretta Scott King expressed her appreciation to PTP for its "significant contribution" to education on the principles of non-violence.

For the fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Pathways co-sponsored an interfaith service in New York City on 10 December 1998. A sculpture exhibit by Anne Mimi Sammis, "One thousand years of peace", was co-sponsored by PTP at the United Nations Secretariat in March 1999.

9. Robert F. Kennedy Memorial

(Special consultative status granted 1993)

Introductory statement

The Robert F. Kennedy Memorial seeks to promote respect for human rights and social justice in accordance with international human rights law and United Nations principles. It works to accomplish these aims through several programmes. The RFK Book Award and the RFK Journalism Awards recognize authors and journalists, print and broadcast, whose work reflects Robert Kennedy's concern for the poor and powerless and his struggle for honest and even-handed justice. The national youth project (RFK Fellows Program) empowers youth in United States cities to serve as leaders in their communities while creating innovative service projects to meet outstanding needs in urban centres. The Human Rights Award

honours individuals who stand up to oppression in the non-violent pursuit of respect for the full range of human rights.

The Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights carries out projects that support, complement or enhance the human rights work of the Human Rights Award laureates and that promote respect for human rights in the laureates' countries. The Center seeks to heighten awareness of human rights issues, stop human rights violations and encourage Governments, international organizations and private actors to adopt policies that ensure respect for international human rights. Through its relationships with the Award laureates, the organizations with which they are affiliated and other activists in their countries, the Center strives to enhance their capacity, increase the impact of their work and share the lessons from their experience with the international human rights community.

The Memorial is not a membership organization. It has an International Advisory Committee, currently composed of 60 members from throughout the world, who help to nominate candidates for the Human Rights Award. Committee members are chosen for their regional and thematic knowledge. The regions and countries of origin of the members of the Committee are given below:

> **Africa**: Botswana, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda; **Americas:** Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, United States and Venezuela; **Asia and the Middle East**: China, India, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Pakistan and the Philippines; **Europe**: Czech Republic, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, France, Germany, United Kingdom; **Other**: Australia.

The thematic areas of expertise of the members of the Committee include women's rights, refugee and immigrant rights, impunity and accountability, torture, right to health, religious rights, indigenous rights, freedom of association, freedom of expression and freedom from racial discrimination.

For the Memorial's human rights work, its core constituency is made up of the Human Rights Award laureates, with whom the Center develops close, collaborative relationships. The regions and countries of the Award laureates are:

> **Africa**: Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, South Africa and Sudan; **Americas**: Colombia, El Salvador and Guatemala; **Asia and the Middle East**: China, India, Indonesia, Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, South Korea and Viet Nam; **Europe**: Poland and Turkey.

The funding sources for the Memorial have not changed since 1996. The Memorial continues to receive the bulk of its support from private contributions and fund-raising events. It also receives support from foundations. The domestic national youth project has received grants from the United States Government for its work. The Center does not accept Government funding for its own work. However, at the request of the Center's Indonesian laureate, in 1999 the Center agreed to serve as a pass-through agency for a grant in the amount of $127,396 from the United States Agency for International Development to the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

The Memorial has participated each year since 1994 in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights. The memorial undertook the following activities at those sessions:

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-third session, 1997

- Public briefing on the human rights situation in China

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-fourth session, 1998

- Oral statement on human rights violations and national security laws
- Joint oral statement on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the programme and methods of work of the Commission

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-fifth session, 1999

- Oral statement on national legislation that restricts the freedoms of association, expression and information
- Oral statement on human rights violations and national security laws

Commission on Human Rights, fifty-sixth session, 2000

- Joint oral statement on the organization of the work of the session, including the situation of human rights in Colombia
- Oral statement on the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world
- Oral statement on the independence of the judiciary

During the fifty-sixth session of the Commission, the Center co-sponsored three public briefings on the rule of law, impunity and accountability.

The Center participated in the Americas preparatory conference, held in December 2000 in Santiago de Chile, for the upcoming World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. The Center provided information to representatives of Governments on the issue of work and descent-based discrimination.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other relevant activities

The Center continues to cooperate with the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights whenever possible. The Center strongly welcomed the creation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner in Santa Fé de Bogotá, Colombia, and since 1998 has maintained a regular correspondence with the Office on issues related to human rights defenders. The Center has also maintained a supportive relationship with the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) that began during 1995 and 1996 while research was under way for the Center's 1996 report, *Civil Patrols and their Legacy: Overcoming Militarization and Polarization in the Guatemalan Countryside*. The Center provided information

to the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers in preparation for his 1999 mission to Guatemala. In 1998 the Center submitted a report on military violence against women in Irian Jaya to the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences.

Gay McDougall, an expert on the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Memorial.

10. Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

(Special consultative status granted 1985)

The Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (WMS), was established in 1864 and, as expressed in its mission statement, "endeavour[s] to make possible opportunities and resources to meet the changing needs and concerns of people throughout the world, do ordain this Society and offer a fellowship so strong, a message so convincing and so enthusiastically contagious that the gospel through us will be at work in the world". The Society is, among other things, the social outreach arm of the Church, with established societies around the world representing approximately 800,000 women. WMS is active in the Bahamas, Bermuda, Central Africa, the Dominican Republic, England, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Namibia, South Africa, Southern Africa, Suriname, Trinidad, the United States and West Africa. The Society focuses primarily on issues concerning women, children and families; however, it is recognized that the whole community must be addressed.

The Society also works in affiliation with a number of other organizations, including Church Women United, the National Council of Negro Women, the World Federation of Methodist Women, Bread for the World, the Children's Defense Fund and several commissions of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches (United States). The Women's Missionary Society is also accredited with the Department of Public Information and attends the weekly briefings it sponsors as well as the annual conference for non-governmental organizations held in September each year.

During the quadrennial reporting period, 1997-2000, WMS exercised its privilege as an NGO in Special Consultative Status to the Economic and Social Council by contributing its opinions and recommendations through replies to questions and submissions of statements. The Society has also been actively involved in developing a resource library of appropriate materials that speak to the issues and concerns of the organization. WMS has disseminated information and materials relative to the programmes and projects addressed by the United Nations to a wide range of its constituents. Each year, a two-day conference was held at the United Nations each October, at which Society members from around the network had the opportunity to attend workshops and seminars presented by invited representatives from a variety of United Nations agencies. Issues presented included human rights, concerning which Sheila Dauer, Director of the Women's Human Rights Program of Amnesty International, provided avenues of involvement for the Society and individuals. Attendees were also encouraged to become involved in United Nations activities relating to the celebration of the fiftieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1998.

After a presentation at one of the organization's workshops by Rebecca Rios-Kahn, of the United Nations human rights and development office, the Society instituted a legislative lobby campaign to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and through the United Methodist Church Office for the United Nations, became a member of Project CEDAW. The WMS-NGO representatives attended the twenty-first session of CEDAW in June 1999.

At another WMS-NGO issues awareness conference, Andrew Radar, UNESCO Liaison Office, was invited to make a presentation. He provided perspectives on Haiti and Zambia and on the good work UNESCO is doing in partnership with the Governments of both countries. Other issues of advocacy and concern have included HIV/AIDS and other health issues, environmental justice and UNICEF, among others. At another WMS-NGO-sponsored seminar, representatives of the permanent missions to the United Nations of Namibia, South Africa and Uganda provided attendees with an overview of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the resulting indigence among children. As part of the Society's involvement in the debt relief crisis, a United Nations economic affairs officer was invited to present a picture of the continued and continuing impoverishment of Africa as a result of the overwhelming debt crisis confronting many of the nations in that region. The organization was called upon to exercise its influence and continue the Jubilee 2000 fight for debt relief. These conferences have all been well attended and the issues addressed and information imparted assisted in the development of social and economic programming for the Society on the local and international levels.

At the October 2000 conference, the special keynote speaker was scheduled to be Secretary-General Kofi Annan. However owing to circumstances in the Middle East and his travel to the area, he was unable to attend. His replacement was Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations Jillian Sorensen. The conference theme was "Mobilizing against poverty, a clarion call: connect, act, respond, experience".

A generous amount of information on the objectives and purposes of the United Nations has been provided, and WMS has disseminated that information through its print and electronic media. The Society's major publication is *Missionary Magazine*, which is published bimonthly. The publication is widely distributed throughout the United States and abroad. The non-governmental organization representatives provide articles twice a year for publication. Another communications tool, *The Missionary Missive*, a quarterly newsletter published by the WMS, also provides an avenue for the dissemination of information. The non-governmental organization representatives also download many United Nations reports and documents so they may be electronically sent to the regional non-governmental organization liaisons for further distribution.

The Society has held Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1985. The Society's status has greatly enhanced the vision of its global responsibilities and has provided an arena for interaction with other organizations whose focus is women and children, peace and justice, and health and human rights. Being connected with such a vast resource as the United Nations, WMS can spread its reach to assist its own constituency, both nationally and globally.

United Nations E/C.2/2003/2/Add.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 October 2002
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
2003 regular session

Quadrennial reports, 1997-2000, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) was founded in 1931 in the belief that enlightened women working together in different countries throughout the world could do much to achieve peace. FAWCO is today an international network of 77 independent clubs with a combined membership of more than 16,000 women in 35 countries worldwide. It serves as a support network for American women living and working abroad and is particularly active in the fields of education, environmental protection, literacy, women's and children's rights and United States citizens' concerns. FAWCO is a not-for-profit corporation and a founding member of the World Federation of Americans Abroad. It is an international networking organization made up entirely of volunteers. Members are mainly American women living and working abroad, some temporarily and some permanently.

While each member club is independent and operates within the local community of its country, the FAWCO organization is incorporated as a not-for-profit, non-partisan, umbrella organization with its own officers, administration and philanthropic endeavours, and works in concert with the local member organizations. For more background information, visit FAWCO's web site at www.fawco.org.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations forums

FAWCO has had an interest in international, social and community activism since its founding. After receiving non-governmental organization status with the Department of Public Information in 1995 and with the Economic and Social Council in 1997, it has had regular representatives at United Nations Headquarters in New York. These representatives have attended the forty-ninth, fiftieth, fifty-first and fifty-second annual DPI/NGO Conferences, on the themes "Building partnerships" (1997), "The fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (1998), "The globalized world: finding new directions" (1999) and "Global solidarity" (2000).

FAWCO representatives also attended meetings on human rights during International Women's Day programmes in 1998 and 1999 in New York City. In addition, representatives attended meetings on the Commission on Population and Development in 1998 and the Hague Appeal for Peace in 1999. The Economic and Social Council representative also attended a United Nations conference on the question of Palestine in 1998.

The New York City representative attends the regular weekly briefings for non-governmental organization representatives, reporting back on issues of interest relating to women, children, the environment, education and microdevelopment. FAWCO has non-governmental organization representatives not only in New York, but also for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region. The European representative attends regular meetings and reports on the activities of the Council on the Status of Women in Geneva.

The FAWCO representative for the Middle East disseminates information from the United Nations in Vienna on issues related to justice, crime and the trafficking of women and children. The non-governmental organization representative in New York attended the United Nations Millennium Forum for 2000. The attendance of FAWCO's current President at the November meeting of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations in Geneva resulted in FAWCO joining the Conference in 2001.

Economic and Social Council-related activities

Since 1967, the philanthropic arm of the Federation, the FAWCO Foundation, has diligently fulfilled its mandate to raise funds and administer them for charitable, scientific and educational purposes. It administers a programme of relief and development grants for projects proposed by the individual member clubs to benefit mainly women and children in developing countries. Since 1997, these donations have grown from $5,000 to more than $20,000 a year. The grants are in addition to funds raised for local projects in the member clubs' countries.

In 1997, the FAWCO Foundation relief and development grants were awarded to a photo-tracing project in the United Republic of Tanzania for refugee children; Amica, a special project for refugee women and children in Bosnia and Herzegovina; DESA, a refugee project in Croatia; and a locally sponsored reading and literacy programme assisting women in the rural area of Tinzouline, Morocco.

In 1998, funds went to a refugee centre for Kurdish women and children in Greece; a home for the disabled in Antigua; an orphanage project in Burkina Faso; and Children in Need, a Dutch charity helping children who were victims of Chernobyl.

In 1999, the grants were awarded to a children's hospital in Russia; the Bellhouse Academy, a literacy project in Thika, Kenya; Operation Angel, a humanitarian health centre in Bajram Curri; a women's centre in the Congo; the Philani Nutrition Centre in South Africa; and Ripples and Rainbows, a resource centre for street children in Calcutta.

In 2000, the relief and development awards went to hospitals in Uganda to assist with the AIDS epidemic; the Monze mission in Zambia; a shelter for battered women in Madrid; and a microeconomic development project training tailors in Kenya.

The variety of the projects reflects the diversity and the wide interests of FAWCO's membership. In addition to these Foundation-sponsored activities, individual FAWCO member clubs around the world have contributed not only funds but countless volunteer hours to activities in the following areas.

Children's rights

Donations to children's welfare organizations have always been a high priority for FAWCO members. Local clubs support nearby children's charities, orphanages and health-care organizations, such as Children in Crisis in the United Kingdom, Save the Children in Sweden, Children's Cancer Relief in Warsaw, Toys for Tots in Luxembourg and AIDS and Children in Zurich.

Women's rights

FAWCO being a women's organization, women's rights have always been at the forefront of its activities. Local clubs have raised money for many different projects related to women's rights and women's economic welfare. Clubs in Barcelona, Madrid, Surrey (England), Dublin, Dusseldorf, Austria, Denmark and The Hague regularly donate money and volunteer time for crisis centres for battered women.

Education

FAWCO's interest in multicultural education and literacy goes back to its earliest days. The FAWCO Foundation administers an awards programme through which scholarship awards worth hundreds of thousands of dollars have been granted for study to FAWCO members and their children in recognition of their academic excellence.

The promotion of literacy has been part of FAWCO activities since its founding. FAWCO has a special committee, Peace through Knowledge, which strives to coordinate literacy programmes in FAWCO clubs around the world and promote involvement in women's microdevelopment projects. Another FAWCO committee, Educational Support, investigates services and options for overseas students with special challenges and learning disabilities. The FAWCO Foundation also offers a special scholarship award for "children who learn differently".

Environment

The FAWCO environment committee has long promoted environmental awareness and responsibility by informing member clubs about environmental issues and encouraging them to learn about and protect their own local environment. The Commiteee offers a "starter pack" to help clubs to set up their own environment committee locally. In addition, the environment committee has been responsible for planting thousands of trees around the world, including, in conjunction with the Peace Corps, more than 2,000 fruit trees in the FAWCO Millennium Forest in Morocco.

Many FAWCO clubs support tree planting and other environmental projects in their local communities. The American Women's Club of Greece has for many years sponsored a beach clean-up programme in Syros and a turtle protection project. Many FAWCO clubs are actively involved in the "Clean up the world" effort on the third weekend of September each year and in local environmental awareness days.

Disaster relief

Since the 1980s, FAWCO has had a relief fund to deal with world emergencies and disasters. Special funds were granted to assist victims of the bombing of the American Embassy in Kenya in 1998, and to Médecins sans frontières for refugees in Kosovo in 1999 and again after the recent earthquake in India. FAWCO member clubs regularly support other non-governmental organizations by donating to the Red Cross, the United Nations Children's Fund, Oxfam and other institutions handling disaster relief.

Publications

The FAWCO *Forum*, the newsletter of the Federation, is published twice a year. It is sent to all 79 clubs for distribution to key people in local communities, embassies and consulates. it is also displayed in clubhouses and local libraries. It includes updates on regular non-governmental organization activities and related FAWCO committee issues and activities. In addition, the President of FAWCO sends out a quarterly "Letter from Headquarters" to all clubs.

Internet

FAWCO is upgrading its communication system to the standards of the digital age. Much of the information that was previously sent by mail is now being received by e-mail and via the organization's new web site, www.fawco.org. The FAWCO non-governmental organization site will allow FAWCO to bring more up-to-date news to its 17,000 members around the world and to enhance the participation of members and member clubs in non-governmental organization-related activities.

2. Fondation El Kef pour le Développement Régional

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Fondation El Kef pour le Développement Régional (FEKDR) is a non-profit institution working on behalf of the various institutions lobbying for regional development in north-western Tunisia.

It endeavours to improve the living conditions of the poorest people and to increase their incomes, by carrying out integrated development projects with communities in rural and forest areas in order to combat poverty and secure the rights of women and children, with a view to sustainable human development.

The Fondation El Kef is run by a 12-member board of governors and a 5-member executive bureau. It is made up of specialized commissions (seven commissions with 15 members each) and local development committees (one 9-member committee for each area of operations). All members serve on a voluntary basis.

Since 1997, when it was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, FEKDR has placed great emphasis on implementing the instruments, to which it made a modest contribution, adopted by the United Nations at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen (1995), the Habitat II Conference in Istanbul (June 1996), and the World Food Summit in Rome (November 1996). It is active in various fields, including social welfare, reproductive health, children, education, the status of women, especially rural women, forestry, farming and environmental protection.

Its activities in these areas can be described as follows.

Social welfare

FEKDR supports disabled persons, abandoned children and the poorest citizens, and helps them to overcome the difficulties which hamper their development, through specialized equipment, transport and training courses for educators, in a spirit of human solidarity.

Health

Open-heart surgery programme. FEKDR regularly sends children suffering from heart defects to the Netherlands, for operations at the University Hospitals of Leiden and Amsterdam, through a solidarity chain of Tunisian and Netherlands institutions. In the past four years, 60 children have been treated under the programme, at a cost of approximately $1.5 million.

Partnership with the Delft Hospital. The results achieved under the cooperation agreement between the hospitals in El Kef and Delft (1995-2000) have encouraged the organizers to continue their collaboration in future years. A new partnership agreement was concluded in 2000 for five years, covering three areas of cooperation: medical, infrastructure and organization.

Children

The activities of FEKDR in this area are based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially articles 28 and 29. Over 60 primary schools in the El Kef region have benefited from this programme, which has been carried out in partnership with UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and foreign organizations, with a budget of $0.8 million.

Project to improve the economic and health conditions of mothers and children in Bir Heddi. As well as improving living conditions for the public at large, the development plan for this area for 1995-1999 seeks to protect the environment and water reservoirs by creating three collinear lakes. The project has made it possible to create momentum for development and to make women aware of problems of reproductive and child health, especially after a dual-compartment mobile clinic, financed from repayments on loans to women, was put into circulation. The cost of the project is $2 million, raised by FEKDR in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (with funding from the Government of Luxembourg, the Ministry for Women and the Family, the Ministry for Economic Development and the city council of Nova in Italy).

Reproductive health project in the twilight areas of the Governorate of El Kef. This project is part of the sixth cooperation programme between the Government of Tunisia and UNFPA, covering the period 1997-2001. Its aim is to broaden access to reproductive health services in these areas, and to improve information systems, as well as conducting operational research in this field. This project, for the period 2000-2003, will cover 9,800 inhabitants in 11 rural areas.

Pilot integrated development operation in the forest clearings of Sakiet, El Kef Governorate. This project is testing a new forestry strategy which involves the population in the sustainable management of forest and grazing land, on the basis of a participatory, integrated approach. The budget for the project for the period 1998-2000 will be $1.5 million. Two public interest forestry groups have been set up to ensure the sustainability of the project outcomes.

Project for the advancement of rural women in the south-west of El Kef. This project concerns the advancement of rural women and their integration into the formal economy through farming. The budget for the project ($557,000) is provided jointly by the European Union and the Tunisian Government.

Tunisian-Belgian cooperation project. In the context of the special relationship between the Tunisian and the Belgian Governments, FEKDR is working in partnership with the National Solidarity Fund on all the income-generating and income-sustaining activities, construction and housing improvement programmes and training programmes for beneficiaries which are in progress in four areas. The total budget is $1.4 million for the period 2001-2008.

Microcredit. To combat poverty, each year FEKDR concludes a framework agreement and a programme contract with the Tunisian Solidarity Bank, for a budget of $100,000, for grants of microcredit with a ceiling of $1,000 per beneficiary.

Participation in international meetings. FEKDR has sent representatives to international meetings and seminars, especially summit meetings organized by the United Nations, such as the Microcredit Summit in Washington, D.C., in February 1997, and the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on social development (Copenhagen+5), held at Geneva from 26 to 30 June 2000.

Geographical origin of members of FEKDR

Country	*Number of individuals*	*Number of organizations*
Netherlands	15	7
Germany	1	1
United States of America	2	2
France	8	7

3. Foundation for International Training

Special consultative status granted in 1997

Introduction

Between 1997 and 2000, the Foundation for International Training (FIT) extended its geographical area of work to Jamaica and Romania. FIT's representatives have participated in United Nations events and contributed to the promotion of several United Nations resolutions through its projects. Field-based cooperation has been established with a number of United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Aims and purposes of the organization

FIT's purpose is to further social and economic progress in developing countries by strengthening human capabilities. FIT's mission is to foster and

increase the capacities of local institutions to strengthen human resources for development.

Increase in geographical membership

Although FIT is not a membership organization, it has affiliations with several southern-based non-governmental organizations that represent local communities and with public institutions in those countries. Since 1997, FIT has increased these partnerships to include two new countries: Jamaica and Romania. In Jamaica, FIT works with community-based organizations, through its Enhancing Civil Society project, which builds the capacity of community-based organizations to address civil society issues through community projects and civil society forums. In Romania, FIT is providing capacity-strengthening support to the Graduate School of Management that was established within the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest.

Participation in United Nations meetings

FIT's Executive Director, Mirabelle Rodrigues, attended the fifty-third annual DPI/NGO Conference, entitled "Global solidarity: the way to peace and international cooperation", organized by the NGO Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations Associated with the Department of Public Information. The Conference was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 28 to 30 August 2000.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Between 1997 and 2000, FIT, along with other Canadian partners, worked with both the Egyptian Ministry of Education and UNICEF to institutionalize education innovation through the Community Education Technical Assistance project. The project was designed to build upon the Ministry of Education's One Room School initiative and UNICEF's community education model by strengthening common areas of concern, such as teacher training, community engagement and child-centred education. FIT provided technical assistance to UNICEF in designing a training programme for community-based education committees on the topics of collective decision-making, problem-solving and community participation. FIT designed and implemented some 30 major technical assistance activities and more than 50 workshops involving nearly 3,000 UNICEF and Ministry of Education participants.

Between January 1998 and December 1998, FIT arranged for the placement of four Canadian interns with the UNDP resident mission in Bucharest. These interns were actively involved in the development and design of several joint UNDP/ Romanian Government programmes, such as the Urban Renewal and Skills Training Programme, aimed at the physical renewal of some old neighbourhoods of Bucharest and the provision of vocational training. Another intern assignment, involving a local non-governmental organization supported by the UNDP mission, was to design a national development strategy for Romania. FIT's interns also assisted with two pilot projects, initiated by UNDP-Romania: the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women project and the Poverty Alleviation Phase I project. All four interns received training in Canada from FIT prior to their placement with UNDP. These internships were funded through FIT's Youth Internship Programme.

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

FIT supports several key United Nations objectives, conventions and resolutions through its project work. The central role of poverty alleviation in development was an important principle endorsed at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen. FIT's projects are designed to promote this agenda, whether by supporting income generation and small business opportunities for poor families in Upper Egypt or by building the capacities of small organizations to promote community-based solutions for poverty in Jamaica. FIT has promoted the ideals of the Rio Declaration by assisting small enterprises in Egypt and China to assess the environmental impacts of their activities, and find no-cost or low cost solutions to pollution and waste management problems. FIT projects in Egypt have also supported the International Labour Organization's initiatives on child labour and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A research project on children and work conducted in Egypt in 1998 prompted a dialogue on the issue among local and international agencies active in the area of small business development. Through the Community Education Technical Assistance project, FIT supported the development of new approaches to increase access to primary education in rural communities, with a specific emphasis on addressing barriers that limit girls' educational opportunities.

Consultative and substantive activities

In 1998, FIT began working with the Rural Development Services Centre, A Vietnamese training and research organization, to establish an indigenous management development programme for staff of local social development organizations working in the area of population and development. With the support of UNFPA, the project developed a Vietnamese-inspired management development programme to enhance the managerial and decision-making skills of social development organization managers.

4. Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción

Special consultative status granted in 1989

The Fundación de Ayuda contra la Drogadicción (FAD) is a private, non-profit and non-denominational Spanish institution, independent of any political affiliation, officially recognized as a charitable assistance institution. FAD, whose honorary presidency is held by Her Majesty Queen Sophia of Spain, was created in 1986 and since its origin has focused its actions on prevention, an approach nowadays emphasized by main national and international organizations.

The Foundation understands that the prevention of drug-related problems is possible only with solid support and through a firm and unified response on the part of civil society. Thus, one of its aims, along with collaborating with the public sector, has been to generate social mobilization — a response from the citizens to activate social entities responsible for articulating this response.

FAD has three basic lines of action: to serve as a technical reference point for all entities that work in the field of substance abuse prevention, to develop effective intervention and management instruments and to collaborate actively with social groups and institutions with similar goals. With a clear vocation for collaboration,

the Foundation develops its activities throughout Spain by means of agreements with public and private institutions, with central and regional Governments, with local administrations, with universities and training centres, and with social, cultural and sporting organizations and associations. As a logical extension of its work, since 1996 FAD has developed institutional and methodological avenues of cooperation with public and private Latin American organizations having responsibility for the prevention of social problems (drug abuse, violence, family destabilization), educational development and community mobilization.

The following activities were carried out by FAD from 1997 to 2000, in implementation of United Nations resolutions:

Social awareness campaigns. FAD is convinced of the need to create positive opinions and a climate of social awareness and has developed seven media campaigns, trying to adapt to the reality and social context of each moment. It is the only institution that conducts a continuous social awareness campaign in the Spanish mass media, which includes radio, press, television, rental movies, cinemas and outdoor advertising. These campaigns are generally centred on young people and use positive communication, avoiding useless dramatic effects. The 1997 annual report on the drug abuse problem in the world, issued by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), congratulated Spain on the realization of the FAD campaign entitled "Control".

Documentation Centre. The most important such centre for documentation in the Spanish language, it handles requests for documentation on drug-related topics, drug dependency and related themes and disseminates at the national level documentation issued by United Nations bodies related to these topics.

Publications. The following National Institute on Drug Abuse (United States of America) monographs have been translated into Spanish and published: "Progresos en el análisis de datos para la investigación de intervenciones preventivas" and "Métodos científicos para la investigación de intervenciones preventivas". Periodical publications include the monthly press bulletin, a collection of articles and news items about drugs that have been published in national and foreign press and magazines; *Intercambio*, a quarterly magazine with information on drug prevention in Spain and Latin America; a quarterly summary bulletin containing updates on drugs mentioned in the publications received by the Documentation Centre; and a yearly funds catalogue that contains a bibliography of publications received by the Documentation Centre during the year. Non-periodical publications include informative booklets for general distribution, instructional guides and support material for fostering prevention programmes, subject and sector studies and specific reports

Web site — www.fad.es. The site provides information about FAD programmes, documents, campaigns, seminars, etc. Databases and documents are directly available on the Internet.

Toll-free telephone number — 900 16 15 15. The toll-free line provides information about drugs and drug dependency (characteristics, symptoms and effects of main substances of abuse, both legal and illegal, and their forms of abuse), as well as about resources available in Spain for assistance in the treatment of drug dependency. It also provides orientation assessment and support in relation to situations of abuse, giving criteria and guidelines for action and serving as a

complementary system of information collection (patterns of abuse, requests, new substances). During this period 74,397 calls were answered.

Training. There has been collaboration with various universities at the postgraduate level for the development of master's and expert degrees, as well as in-depth training courses. Undergraduate courses have been directed towards training in fields such as medicine and media sciences. Training in drug dependency for specific professional groups, such as social mediators, local police and the Spanish Army, has been provided.

Prevention programme. For schools, a set of activities directed towards systematizing the prevention of drug abuse in grade school contexts has been undertaken. This programme intervenes directly in the educational community through interaction with teachers, parents and young children. It has four subprogrammes that use literature, movies (in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Spanish National Committee), music and sports (also in collaboration with the UNICEF Spanish National Committee), to implement prevention activities. For families, there is a programme aimed at parents with the objective of increasing their awareness and providing them with strategies related to the prevention of drug abuse. By means of an active and participative methodology, it seeks to complement action in schools with family participation in the field of prevention. For adolescents, an educational programme for prevention of new drug abuse patterns, addressed to 16- to 18-year-old students, is aimed at promoting awareness and group work with the goal of reducing abuse of alcohol and other drugs among young people. An alcohol and traffic programme is directed towards students at driving schools and adult education centres. Its objective is to prevent the risks of combining driving with alcohol abuse.

Volunteerism. FAD has sought to mobilize volunteers, who, on the one hand, support and facilitate its programmes for action and, on the other hand, act as true community agents for prevention and social awareness. It has 750 volunteers.

Research and investigation. Through various analytical strategies and theoretical constructions, FAD aims at contributing to the development of methodologies for intervention in and follow-up of drug-related problems and their social impact. For this purpose the Foundation has a specific area for research and investigation, which covers the following subjects: multidisciplinary seminars on specific subjects, epidemiological research, sociological research and applied research.

International area. Activities undertaken by FAD in international circles are aimed at extending the methodological experience of the institution through cooperation in the development of programmes and preventive educational activities in other countries, mainly in Latin America. The aims are:

- To back organizations in other countries in reinforcing their institutional image, enable communication between cooperative organisms and promote development of their technical capacity, which will enable them to multiply and increase the efficiency of their actions
- To facilitate methodological and instrumental consensus thus promoting the transmission of methodologies, the sharing of technical advances and complementarity of efforts and programmes

- To support, as a final result of all of the above, the development of a socially articulated network in the various countries.

Fields of action are these: educational/preventive (working with teachers and students in general educational areas), community (promoting mobilization, organizational development and educational development in communities, with special attention focused on young people and teenagers) and technical /professional (promoting the training and certification of professionals and mediators).

From 1997 to 2000, FAD cooperated with the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies:

- UNICEF Spanish National Committee: implementation in Spanish schools of the FAD prevention programmes "Films and education in values" and "Good sportsman's club", and the making of a videotape
- UNICEF Americas and the Caribbean Regional Office and UNICEF branches in Peru, Paraguay and Bolivia: realization of a programme to strengthen and increase non-governmental organization networks involved in the development of UNICEF aims. It includes the following activities: social worker training, meetings and seminars, institutional reinforcement for non-governmental organizations (training, strengthening, redesigning of projects, support and technical counselling), writing and publication of books and guides for community intervention, distribution of materials among non-governmental organizations that work with UNICEF and technical counselling on UNICEF programmes for the educational development of children and adolescents
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS: participation in seminars on risk prevention and injection of drugs; lectures given by the FAD Technical Director on the subjects "Ethics of substitution programmes", "Quality level and demands of harm reduction programmes" and "Medium aims intervention patterns"; technical counselling on epidemiological research on HIV and AIDS cases (Southern Cone of South America)
- UNDCP: development of a joint project in Peru and Colombia for informing and training journalists on drug topics. This programme uses an online training methodology through the Internet and CD-ROM (Infodrogas programme). The FAD Technical Director participates regularly in meetings with UNDCP in Bogotá, Lima and Montevideo.

FAD is affiliated with the following international institutions:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations substance abuse office, as project coordinator
- European Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and Other Drugs, as a member of the main committee
- Substance Abuse Libraries and Information Services (United States of America), as a member
- European Foundation of Drug Helplines, as a founding member
- Regional Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resource, as an associate member
- UNDCP, as a member

- European NGO Council on Drugs and Development, as a member
- Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Fund, as a technical adviser.

5. Global Cooperation Society International

Special consultative status granted in 1997

The Global Cooperation Society (GCS) International is an international non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The headquarters of GCS International was established in Seoul in 1978. It is a global movement focusing on five major goals: a morally sound society, better living, protection of nature and the environment, restoration of human dignity, and world peace in the spirit of good will, cooperation and service.

The movement was first proclaimed in 1975 at the fourth Triennial Conference of the International Association of University Presidents, which was held in Boston. The Boston Declaration was adopted by the Presidents of 600 prestigious universities around the world, officially launching the GCS movement.

As at December 2000, there were 33 national chapters and 500 regional chapters and local clubs with 18,000 members. GCS International has expanded its network through its 33 national chapters, in Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Russia, Ukraine, Norway, the United States of America, India, Japan, China, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Kenya, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay. GCS International covers all the continents of the world, having expanded to the African region in 2000. GCS International's funds come from membership dues and voluntary donations and there has been no substantial change in its sources since 1997.

GCS International became associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information in 1992 and was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1997. For the last 19 years, GCS International, in collaboration with the International Association of University Presidents and the United Nations Association of Korea, has held annual ceremonies and international peace conferences in observance of the International Day of Peace (the third Tuesday in September), contributing greatly to the promotion of the love and preservation of peace.

GCS International celebrated the International Day of Peace and held a peace conference in Seoul from 1 to 3 September 1997 under the theme "Visions and realities in the twenty-first century: the role of East Asia". It also held an international peace conference on 1 and 2 September 1998 under the theme "Visions and realities in the twenty-first century", in observance of the seventeenth International Day of Peace. In 1999, its commemorative ceremony and international. conference were held from 11 to 13 September under the theme "Global visions towards the next millennium: modern civilization and beyond". For the nineteenth International Day of Peace GCS International held a commemoration ceremony and an international peace conference in Seoul on 19 and 20 September 2000 under the theme "Global governance in the twenty-first century.

GCS International sent its delegation to the annual DPI/NGO Conferences at the United Nations in 1997, 1998 and 1999 to enhance its relationship with the United Nations through non-governmental organization programmes.

At the threshold of the twenty-first century, GCS International co-hosted the 1999 Seoul International Conference of NGOs, from 10 to 16 October 1999, under the theme "The role of NGOs in the twenty-first century: inspire, empower and act!" The event was also hosted by the NGO/DPI Executive Committee and the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations and was endorsed by 20 international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations University, the World Health Organization and the World Bank. The Seoul NGO Conference was the first major non-governmental organization gathering dedicated primarily to the question of how non-governmental organizations themselves would be well organized and empowered at the global level so as to address issues across the whole spectrum of human progress. With 13,000 participants representing 1,360 non-governmental organizations from 107 countries, the Conference addressed 11 major themes in 187 workshops, 10 thematic plenary meetings and five general plenary meetings in connection with issues of contemporary society. Among the specific issues addressed were peace and security, environment, education, ethics and values, gender equality, social and economic development, youth and children, human rights, health, productive ageing and empowering non-governmental organizations.

The Seoul Millennium Declaration of NGOs was adopted on the basis of discussion of these issues to provide a vision for the future, and a plan of action was prepared to stress the interconnected nature of the challenges facing the world and the need for coordinated action and implementation by all the peoples of the world.

Given the emphasis on the United Nations world conferences, and as preparation for the Millennium NGO Forum and the Millennium General Assembly, the United Nations had a high profile at the Conference, which opened with a videotaped address from the Secretary-General. During the Conference personal addresses were delivered by the Deputy Secretary-General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information and the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. Many representatives of United Nations agencies were also present during the Conference.

After the NGO Conference, GCS International published 1,000 copies of the record of the proceedings in Korean and 500 in English. The Korean edition was distributed to many Korean non-governmental organizations and the English edition to foreign participants in the Millennium NGO Forum at the United Nations.

Five delegates of GCS International attended the Millennium NGO Forum, held at the United Nations from 22 to 26 June 2000. The President of GCS International was invited to address a plenary meeting of the Forum and delivered a

speech under the topic "A grand design for non-governmental organizations for the new millennium".

The President of GCS International initiated the publication of *The World Encyclopedia of Peace* to promote and maintain peace as a primary concern. The first edition was published in the United Kingdom in 1986 by Pergamon Press in observance of the International Day of Peace. The second edition was published in New York in 1999 by Oceana Publications. *The World Encyclopedia of Peace* is the fruit of the work of more than 320 scholars and experts from more than 36 countries, with more than 620 articles covering concepts, theories, movements, initiatives, milestones and key individuals in the area of peace.

6. Inter-American Housing Union

Special consultative status granted in 1989

The Inter-American Housing Union (UNIAPRAVI) is a non-governmental international organization that comprises about 140 publicly and privately owned institutions — savings and loan associations, mortgage banks, housing banks, universal banks with mortgage portfolios, housing funds, ministries of housing, building firms, etc. — involved in the financing, promotion and regulation of the housing and urban development sector in 21 countries in the Americas. UNIAPRAVI was founded in Caracas in 1964, and is primarily aimed at contributing to the strengthening of such institutions by providing them with technical advisory, training, research and information services dealing with housing and urban development policies and finance.

In 1999 UNIAPRAVI completed 35 years of institutional life, and during these three and a half decades has made a substantial effort to enhance, by means of strengthening the capabilities of sectoral institutions, resource mobilization for housing and urban infrastructure initiatives, as well as access to housing for a greater share of the population. This work has been and is being done with the objective in mind of consolidating UNIAPRAVI as a distinguished information centre, think tank, and initiative catalyst for sectoral development and financing in the countries of the region.

In recent years the working agenda of UNIAPRAVI has been shaped to respond to the new challenges and opportunities that the current globalized context offers. In this regard, an issue of paramount importance has been the analysis and exchange of ideas and experiences concerning the development of secondary mortgage markets. A growing number of Latin American countries have been pursuing legal, institutional and operating initiatives so as to attain this objective. The in-depth discussion of this issue has also led us to emphasize the need to stimulate the development of solid primary mortgage markets.

Priority has also been granted to the analysis and discussion of how to improve access to affordable housing for lower-income groups, a task that deserves special attention from all Governments of the region. UNIAPRAVI has played a relevant role in disseminating information on the extent to which demand-side housing subsidy regimes have contributed to this objective in a number of Latin American countries and on how their experiences may be useful to other countries. While some countries have considerable experience with this kind of instrument — Chile,

Costa Rica and Colombia, among others — a growing number of countries have also stepped into this area at a later date by adopting political decisions and specific regimes for implementation. As a result, all these countries have found an alternative way to provide lower-income families with access to affordable housing without introducing distortions to the functioning of housing finance markets.

Closely related to the foregoing, UNIAPRAVI has supported the idea that the housing sector development model must be compatible with the overall development model. This is done by fostering the prevalence of market mechanisms to lead to enhanced private investment in the sector and, at the same time, by strengthening the facilitating and subsidiary role of the State so as to offer equality of opportunity to all families, regardless of level of income, to have suitable access to housing.

In addition, UNIAPRAVI is putting increasing emphasis on the discussion of a wide range of topics related to the provision and financing of urban infrastructure and services. Water supply and sewerage, electric power supply, waste disposal and access to land are all key elements for quality of life. However, in Latin America there exists a significant deficit in the provision of these services, primarily affecting lower-income groups. UNIAPRAVI has been increasingly attentive to the search for useful ideas and experiences in order to establish region-wide the legal, institutional, technical and financial conditions necessary to attain integral urban development with the contribution of all parties involved (i.e., the State, local governments, businessmen and communities). In this regard, in 2000 UNIAPRAVI signed a collaborative agreement with the Urban Management Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PGU-LAC) in order to carry out joint activities intended to foster urban development in the region. PGU-LAC was originally established as a joint effort of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) and other international cooperation agencies.

It is worth noting that in 2000 UNIAPRAVI joined the regional commission for the support of the global campaigns promoted by UNCHS — now the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). Close contacts have been made with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, based in Rio de Janeiro. In this respect, Habitat is organizing its work around two global campaigns: the Campaign for Security of Tenure and the Campaign for Urban Governance. The President of UNIAPRAVI represented the institution at a meeting in Santiago from 25 to 27 October 2000, in the framework of the Istanbul+5 regional preparatory meeting at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Another key way to disseminate these ideas and contributions has been, as in the past, the programme of publications that comprises books and periodicals providing a unique source of documentation and information in the field of housing, urban policies and finance in the Americas. Many United Nations agencies (ECLAC, Habitat, UNDP, etc.) are standing recipients of this information. Within the reporting period, UNIAPRAVI also launched its web site, which is intended to be a first-hand source of information on the sector and the work of the Union for the benefit of all institutions, including United Nations agencies, involved in the development of the housing and urban development sector. It is hoped that closer interaction with governmental bodies, private sector practitioners, international organizations and cooperation agencies can be attained by this means.

7. International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights

Special consultative status granted in 1983

Introduction

The International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights (INTERIGHTS) is an international human rights organization, established in 1982, that aims to promote the effective use of international human rights law to protect rights and freedoms worldwide. It provides support for lawyers, judges, human rights organizations and others in addressing human rights problems through the law. It focuses primarily on the developing world, with active programmes in Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, South Asia and the Commonwealth Caribbean, giving special attention to the rights to liberty and security of the person, equal treatment without discrimination, free expression and economic, social and cultural rights. INTERIGHTS publishes a quarterly *Bulletin* on developments in human rights law and the *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, both distributed worldwide. INTERIGHTS is a registered charity, dependent on grants and donations. It holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, granted in 1983, the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights and the Council of Europe, and is authorized to submit complaints under the collective complaints mechanism of the European Social Charter.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and United Nations meetings

INTERIGHTS:

- submitted or assisted others to submit a number of complaints to the United Nations Human Rights Committee against States including Algeria, Georgia, Guyana, Jamaica, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and Trinidad and Tobago, mostly relating to the death penalty and fair trial, and advised on potential complaints from Nepal
- assisted in the preparation of a complaint to the United Nations Committee against Torture regarding the deportation of an asylum-seeker to a country where the complainant faced a violation of article 3 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- filed, or assisted others to file, complaints and submissions to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on violence against women and on torture; the complaints addressed issues including fair trial, ill-treatment in prison, "honour crimes", battered women's defence and mandatory death penalty.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

INTERIGHTS:

- advised the United Nations Development Programme office in Dhaka and several Bangladeshi non-governmental organizations on the Bangladesh

Human Rights Commission Bill 1998 and its conformity with international human rights standards

- with support from the United Nations Development Fund for Women, initiated technical support for the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of women to the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights in defining her mandate and producing her first report.

Other relevant activities

Casework and other advice

INTERIGHTS:

- provided advice to lawyers, judges, and non-governmental organizations on the effective invocation of United Nations human rights standards in many cases worldwide at the domestic and the regional level and on the techniques of utilizing international mechanisms in specific cases
- concerned by lack of implementation of decisions of the United Nations Human Rights Committee by Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, made submissions to the United Nations Rapporteur responsible for follow-up and also to the Commonwealth Secretary-General, who was visiting the region, detailing the decisions and the action taken
- concerned by the withdrawal of Caribbean States from the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and in some cases reaccession with reservations, sought expert advice and brought a test case to the Human Rights Committee on the legal implications of the reservations.

Meetings organized or attended

INTERIGHTS staff organized and participated in seminars, workshops and conferences on the practical application of international human rights law, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, Africa and South Asia, including the following activities:

- organizing a pan-African meeting on fair trial in Africa in September 1999, co-funded by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, where comparative information on United Nations norms and procedures on fair trial was referred to extensively
- organizing a judicial colloquium on the domestic implementation of international human rights norms, particularly those of the United Nations, in Bangalore, India, in 1998, jointly with the Commonwealth Secretariat
- organizing a workshop for the London-based panel representing death row prisoners in the Caribbean on relevant petition mechanisms, including the United Nations Human Rights Committee, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on Torture and the 1503 procedure
- participating in the NGO Coalition for the Establishment of an International Criminal Court and attendance at meetings of the Preparatory Committee on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court

- participating in a series of meetings to review the role of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, organized by the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development in 1997 and 1999.

Publications

Many INTERIGHTS publications carry information on United Nations systems and jurisprudence:

- The *Bulletin*, published quarterly, contains summaries of all decisions of United Nations juridical bodies, articles about topics relating to the practical use of international human rights law, including United Nations instruments, information about recent developments (including new United Nations instruments, General Comments, etc.) and additional information such as ratification charts. The *Bulletin* has been translated in full or in part into Bulgarian, French, Hungarian, Russian, Sinhala and Tamil
- The *Database on Commonwealth Human Rights Law* and its associated periodical, the *Commonwealth Human Rights Law Digest*, issued three times a year, carry summaries of human rights-related decisions of senior Commonwealth national courts, especially those referring to United Nations or regional human rights standards
- The INTERIGHTS web site carries, inter alia, summaries of decisions of the United Nations Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture and other United Nations human rights bodies
- *Developing Human Rights Jurisprudence, Vol. 7*, published with the Commonwealth Secretariat following a judicial colloquium held in Georgetown, Guyana, in 1996, contains papers by eminent judges on the domestic application of United Nations and other human rights standards
- INTERIGHTS contributed a chapter on human rights tribunals, including United Nations bodies, to *The Handbook on International Courts and Tribunals* (Butterworths, United Kingdom, 1999)
- *Reading Human Rights: an Annotated Guide to a Human Rights Library* contains selected literature on human rights standards, including many on relevant United Nations standards.

8. International Federation of Women in Legal Careers

Special consultative status granted in 1961

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers is an international non-governmental organization that was founded in Paris in 1928. The activities of the International Federation, according to article 2 of its statute, are inspired by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirmed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as in all other resolutions, declarations, conventions and recommendations of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies aimed at eradicating all forms of discrimination and promoting equality between men and women. To that end, the members of the International

Federation work to make those principles known and to persuade national parliaments and Governments, as well as all competent authorities and the public, that national legislation should conform to those principles and that they should be effectively applied in social and judicial activities.

Affiliates of the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers include 35 national associations and 36 individual members, which in their countries work according to those principles.

The Congress of the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers meets every three years. Its Council, made up of three representatives of each national association, meets once a year. The Board, elected by the Council, meets twice a year.

The International Federation's only source of funding is the fees paid by its members.

Delegates of the International Federation have participated in working sessions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The International Federation attended the special session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". Our Federation held its sixteenth Congress in Naples, with the participation of a representative of UNESCO. The theme was women at the threshold of the third millennium.

The President of the International Federation, Claire Jourdan, attended meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York in 1998 and 1999. In 1998 the Council met in Paris, and the seventieth anniversary of the International Federation was celebrated. In 1999 the seventeenth Congress was held, under the theme "Violence against women and human rights: legal aspects". After that Congress Spain became President of the International Federation.

The new Board is represented in the Economic and Social Council in New York, Vienna and Geneva. We also have representation in UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. We will work further in order to have representation in the United Nations Children's Fund.

We are preparing the next meeting of the Council, to be held in Istanbul. We will have a seminar on trafficking in women and children from 1 to 9 September.

We have a web site and have published two circulars.

At the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York from 6 to 16 March 2001, the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers submitted the Toledo Declaration. Angelina Huríos Calcerrada, President of the International Federation, submitted a statement under item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda.

At the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva in April 2001, statements were submitted by Mayte Baiges Artís, Secretary-General of the International Federation, about the situation of Afghan women and about violence against women.

9. Institute of Internal Auditors

Special consultative status granted in 1989

Introduction

Mission statement: to be the primary international association for the profession, organized on a worldwide basis, dedicated to the promotion and development of the practice of internal auditing. The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is committed to:

- Providing, on an international scale, comprehensive professional development activities, standards for the practice of internal auditing, and certification
- Researching, disseminating and promoting to its members, and to the public throughout the world, knowledge and information concerning internal auditing, internal control and related subjects
- Establishing meetings worldwide in order to educate members and others about the practice of internal auditing as it exists in various countries throughout the world
- Bringing together internal auditors from all countries to share information and experiences in internal auditing and promoting education in the field of internal auditing.

Motto: "Progress through sharing".

To accomplish its mission, the Institute has four primary objectives:

- To be a recognized authority
- To be an acknowledged leader
- To be a principal educator
- To be a professional organization (effectively using the skills of volunteers and staff).

IIA provides the basis of the profession of internal auditing, consisting of elements such as:

- Standards for the professional practice of internal auditing
- Code of ethics
- Certifications (Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Government Auditing Professional, Certification in Control Self-Assessment).

Membership growth

The organizational components of IIA are chapters or national institutes. National institutes are self-sustaining organizations with anywhere from 300 to 5,000 members. The greatest membership growth has taken place in the last few years with the addition of many new affiliates outside North America. Individual memberships grew from 63,000 in 1997 to about 70,000 at the end of 2000. Approximately half of the members are in North America (the United States of

America, Canada and the Caribbean). The other half are from outside North America.

New chapters or national institutes established from 1997 to 2000 are identified below:

1997: Austria,[1] Botswana, Caracas, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Mississippi Gulf Coast (United States of America), Salem (United States of America), Thailand,[1] Poland

1998: Estonia

1999: Azerbaijan, Barbados, Cyprus, Latvia, Malawi, Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)

2000: Guyana, Ecuador,[1] Honduras, Lebanon, Moscow, Slovenia

Activities in conjunction with the United Nations or its agencies

In 1997:

- IIA held a training session on tools and techniques for beginning auditors for the World Food Programme from 27 to 31 January
- IIA held a training session on fraud detection and investigation for the International Labour Organization on 15 and 16 April.

In 1998:

- IIA performed a quality auditing review at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) from 22 June to 3 July
- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the World Bank Group with an internal auditing benchmarking report.

In 1999:

- IIA held training sessions on value added business controls for the World Bank Group from 17 to 19 March and from 3 to 7 May
- IIA performed a quality auditing review for the Auditor General of the World Bank Group from 1 to 12 November
- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the World Bank Group and IMF with internal auditing benchmarking reports.

In 2000:

- IIA's Global Auditing Information Network provided the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Bank Group and IMF with internal auditing benchmarking reports
- IIA held a training session on skills for the new auditor-in-charge for the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 14 January
- IIA performed a quality auditing review at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization from 14 to 25 August

[1] Chapter created or status changed to national institute.

- IIA held a training session on auditing the automated business environment for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations from 6 to 8 December.

IIA participation in United Nations meetings

In 1997: annual meeting of United Nations auditors

In 1998: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Geneva

In 1999: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Paris

In 2000: annual meeting of United Nations auditors at Rome.

10. Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development

Special consultative status granted in 1993

Introductory statement: aims and purposes

The Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development (ICEPS) is a non-profit organization founded in 1966 and made up of prominent members from the world of politics, culture and business. In 1990 the Institute joined the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes as an institutional member; in 1993 it was recognized as a non-governmental organization in consultative status (category II) with the Economic and Social Council; in 1995 it was granted the status of internationalist body of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with Law No. 948/1982.

The purposes of ICEPS are as follows: to promote the economies and development of developing and emerging countries, Central and Eastern European States and newly independent States, and to provide information, research, advice and technical assistance activities related to international economic cooperation and development.

ICEPS carries out cooperation activities and exchanges information with United Nations organizations — the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Information Centre for Italy, Malta and the Holy See — and with other international organizations, such as the World Bank, the Development Centre of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Trade Organization and the Italian/European Research and Training Institutes.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council — organization of and participation in conferences and meetings

ICEPS cooperated on the occasion of the first World Investment in Tourism Conference and Exhibition, held in Milan from 25 to 27 February 1997. It presented a project entitled "How can you finance an activity in the tourism field — the resources of the main international financial institutions".

ICEPS created a report on prospects for United Nations reform in connection with the evolution of the international political situation. It was presented in the Italian Parliament on 5 March 1997.

ICEPS participated in the Xarxa Mediterània conference, organized by the Centre for International Information and Documentation, located in Barcelona. The conference took place in Casablanca on 9 and 10 June 1997. ICEPS also participated in the meetings of the "Club Financier Mediterranean" in 1997.

ICEPS participated in the World Convention of Italian Chambers of Commerce Abroad, held in Parma, from 26 to 28 October 1998. ICEPS established contacts with representatives of the Chambers of Commerce with a view to future collaborations.

ICEPS collaborated in the presentation by the African Development Bank (ADB) at a conference in Florence in December 1998. The objective was to foster the participation of Italian enterprises in activities promoted by the ADB Group.

ICEPS was present at a meeting on the euro in the context of the present world currency instability, with an accent on monetary instability in Latin American countries. The meeting took place in Verona in May 1999.

ICEPS organized a bilateral conference on Italy and Madagascar, with the accent on an effective strategy for promoting economic cooperation between the two countries. The conference was held in Verona on 18 June 1999.

ICEPS, in cooperation with Le Bouget and the European Institute of World Affairs, organized an Italian forum on strategies for European aerospace policy, held on 28 June 1999 in Milan.

ICEPS was present at a meeting with Ion Iliescu, President of the Romanian Social Democracy Party, held on 27 October 1999 in Rome.

ICEPS, in collaboration with the Centre for International Political Studies (CeSPI) and the Istituto Italo-Latinoamericano (IILA), participated in the organization of a Forum on the development of small enterprises, which took place in Verona from 31 January to 2 February 2000.

ICEPS, in collaboration with CeSPI, the Centro per lo Sviluppo della Ricerca Tecnologica and IILA, organized a forum on the theme "Argentina and Italy, together towards the third millennium", which took place in Cordoba, Argentina, from 18 to 26 November 2000. The purposes of the forum were to strengthen the relationship between Italy and Argentina and to promote small and medium-sized enterprises and international exchanges.

ICEPS jointed in meeting with Ali Ahani, Ambassador of Iran, on opportunities for cooperation between Iran and Italy, held on 13 March 2000 in Villafranca, Italy.

ICEPS joined in a mission to Tehran from 15 to 21 June 2000.

ICEPS, in collaboration with CeSPI, the International Court of the Environment Foundation and the Istituto per le relazioni tra l'Italia e i Paesi dell'Africa, America Latina e Medio Oriente organized a meeting on the Italian policy to reduce poverty in the South on 14 July 2000.

There was a round table on the theme "Small and medium-sized enterprises: strategies to promote a link between Italian and Argentine enterprises".

Other activities

ICEPS participated in a series of programmes of the European Union aimed at promoting economic cooperation among enterprises of emerging European States. ICEPS organized technical seminars and workshops for European and other businessmen.

ICEPS participated in projects that created a virtual socio-economic observatory, with the Community of Mediterranean Universities and the European Commission.

Another activity developed in collaboration with the European Union is the project Al-Invest Cibus 98, and in particular:

- A project for collaboration between Brazilian and European workers in the agricultural industry
- Collaboration between Uruguay and Brazil in the field of ornamental stones
- Activities relating to the leather industry in Mexico.

In collaboration with the World Bank, ICEPS published a book on the World Bank's support for enterprises.

ICEPS presented a paper on Programmes of debt conversion in the Mediterranean countries and the participation of private Italian citizens, in May 1997.

ICEPS published a compilation of fundamental events and programme activities involving the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union and other international organizations. ICEPS also published the following reports:

- No. 5/97, "Economic and political security" (July 1997)
- No. 4/97, "Programme for conversion of debts of Mediterranean countries" (June 1997)
- No. 3/97, "The Lomé Convention, ACP-EU in 2000 — continuity or innovation" (May 1997)
- No. 2/97, "The United Nations perspectives in relation to the evolution of the international political situation" (April 1997)
- No. 1/97, "The world vertex of feed — and FAO reform" (January/February 1997)
- No. 1/98, "Give the United Nations the instruments and we will do our work".

In 1998 ICEPS published other reports as well, on the United Nations and its reforms and on the European Union programmes relating to the Mediterranean countries.

ICEPS published index cards for African countries, and in particular for Madagascar and Mozambique, in 1998.

In terms of general activities regarding information about the United Nations, ICEPS updated its archive with documentation on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Council.

Information and research activities relating to the heavily indebted poor countries were carried out.

ICEPS has a library that is open to the public. Access to the library is free. It has about 4,000 volumes, especially in the fields of international economic cooperation. Moreover, it has a periodicals library with about 100 magazines and other publications.